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# Medical Dictionary

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## macrolide

## 970

## macrostereognosia

**macrolide** (mak'ro-lid) 1. a chemical compound characterized by a large lactone ring containing multiple keto and hydroxyl groups. 2. any of a group of antibacterial antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin or oleandomycin) containing a macrolide ring linked glycosidically to one or more sugars. Macrolides are produced by certain species of *Streptomyces* and inhibit protein synthesis by binding to the 50S subunits of 70S ribosomes.

**macrolymphocyte** (mak'ro-lim'fo-sit) a large lymphocyte.

**macrolymphocytosis** (mak'ro-lim'fo-si-to'sis) the presence of an increased number of large lymphocytes.

**macromastia** (mak'ro-mas'te-ah) [macro + Gr. *mas* breast + -ia] oversize of the breasts or mammae.

**macromazia** (mak'ro-ma'ze-ah) [macro + Gr. *mazos* breast + -ia] macromastia.

**macromelia** (mak'ro-me'le-ah) enlargement of one or more limbs.

**macromelus** (mak'rom'o-lus) [macro + Gr. *melos* limb] a fetus with abnormally large or long limbs.

**macromere** (mak'ro-mer) [macro + Gr. *meros* part] 1. one of the large blastomeres formed by unequal cleavage of a fertilized ovum, located in the vegetal hemisphere and dividing less rapidly than the micromeres of the animal hemisphere.

**macromethod** (mak'ro-meth'od) a chemical method in which the substance to be analyzed is used in customary (not minute) quantity. Cf. *micromethod*.

**macromolecular** (mak'ro-mo-lek'u-lar) having large molecules; pertaining to macromolecules.

**macromolecule** (mak'ro-mol'ek-ul) a very large molecule having a polymeric chain structure, as in proteins, polysaccharides, and other natural and synthetic polymers.

**Macromonas** (mak'ro-mo'nas) [macro + Gr. *monas* unit, from *monos* single] a genus of gram-negative chemolithotrophic bacteria of uncertain affiliation, occurring as cylindrical cells that oxidize sulfur compounds and contain sulfur granules. They are found in fresh waters with a low oxygen concentration. The type species is *M. mobilis*.

**macromonocyte** (mak'ro-mon'o-sit) a very large monocyte.

**macromyeloblast** (mak'ro-mi'e-lo-blast) a large myeloblast.

**macronodular** (mak'ro-nod'u-lar) characterized by large nodules.

**macronormoblast** (mak'ro-nor'mo-blast) a very large nucleated red blood corpuscle; macroblast.

**macronucleus** (mak'ro-nu'kle-us) [macro + Gr. *nucleus*] 1. the larger of two types of nuclei when more than one is present in a cell. 2. in ciliate protozoa, the transcriptionally active, polyploid nucleus, much larger than the micronucleus, that governs the organism's vegetative processes and is responsible for its phenotype. Called also *meganucleus*, *trophic nucleus*, and *trophonucleus*.

**macroonychchia** (mak'ro-nik'e-ah) [macro + Gr. *onyx* nail + -ia] megalonychia.

**macro-orchidism** (mak-ro-or'ki-dizm) [macro + Gr. *orchis* testicle] abnormal enlargement of the testis.

**macropathology** (mak'ro-puh-thol'o-je) [macro + Gr. *pathos*] the nonmicroscopical pathologic account of any disease or organ.

**macrophage** (mak'ro-faj) [macro + Gr. *phagein* to eat] any of the many forms of mononuclear phagocytes found in tissues. Mononuclear phagocytes arise from hematopoietic stem cells in the bone marrow. After passing through the monoblast and promonocyte stages to the monocyte stage, they enter the blood, circulating for about 40 hours. They then enter tissues and increase in size, phagocytic activity, and lysosomal enzyme content and become macrophages. The morphology of macrophages varies among different tissues and between normal and pathologic states, and not all macrophages can be identified by morphology alone. However, most macrophages are large cells with a round or indented nucleus, a well-developed Golgi apparatus, abundant endocytotic vacuoles, lysosomes, and phagolysosomes, and a plasma membrane covered with ruffles or microvilli. Among the functions of macrophages are nonspecific phagocytosis and pinocytosis, specific phagocytosis of opsonized microorganisms mediated by Fc receptors and complement

receptors, killing of ingested microorganisms, digestion and presentation of antigens to T and B lymphocytes, and secretion of a large number of diverse products, including many enzymes (lysozyme, collagenases, elastase, acid hydrolases), several complement components and coagulation factors, some prostaglandins and leukotrienes, and several regulatory molecules (interferon, interleukin-1). Among the cells now recognized as macrophages are histiocytes, Kupffer cells, osteoclasts, microglial cells, synovial type A cells, interdigitating cells, and Langerhans cells (in normal tissues) and epithelioid cells and Langerhans-type and foreign-body-type multinucleated giant cells (in inflamed tissues). **alveolar m.**, one of the rounded, granular, mononuclear phagocytes within the alveoli of the lungs that ingest inhaled particulate matter; called also *alveolar phagocyte* and *dust cell*. **armed m.'s**, those capable of inducing cytotoxicity as a consequence of antigen-binding by cytophilic antibodies on their surfaces or by factors derived from T lymphocytes. **fixed m.**, a quiescent, sessile macrophage similar to a fibroblast in morphology, found in the lymph nodes, spleen, bone marrow, and connective tissue (where it is called a histiocyte). **free m.**, an actively motile macrophage, usually having an amoeboid shape and highly ruffled surface, found at sites of inflammation. **inflammatory m.**, free m.

**macrophagocyte** (mak'ro-fag'o-sit) a phagocyte of relatively large size.

**macrophagus** (mak-krof'ah-gus) macrophage.

**macrophallus** (mak'ro-fal'us) [macro + Gr. *phallos* penis] abnormal largeness of the penis.

**macrophthalmia** (mak'rof-thal'me-ah) [macro + Gr. *ophthalmos* eye + -ia] abnormal enlargement of the eyeball.

**macrophthalmous** (mak'rof-thal'mus) having abnormally large eyes.

**macroplasia** (mak'ro-pla'ze-ah) [macro + Gr. *plasis* forming + -ia] excessive growth of a part or tissue.

**macroplastia** (mak'ro-plas'te-ah) macroplasia.

**macropodia** (mak'ro-po'de-ah) [macro + Gr. *pous* foot + -ia] excessive size of the feet.

**macropolycyte** (mak'ro-pol'e-sit) a hypersegmented polymorphonuclear leukocyte of greater than normal size. Cf. *polycyte*.

**macroprolactinoma** (mak'ro-pro-lak'ti-no-mah) a prolactin-secreting pituitary adenoma of more than 10 mm in diameter and usually associated with serum prolactin levels exceeding 500 ng per milliliter.

**macropromyelocyte** (mak'ro-pro-mi'e-lo-sit) a very large promyelocyte.

**macroprosopia** (mak'ro-pro-so'pe-ah) [macro + Gr. *prosopein* face + -ia] excessive size of the face.

**macropsia** (mah-krop'se-ah) [macro + Gr. *opsis*] an illusion in which objects are seen as larger than they actually are.

**macrorhinia** (mak'ro-rin'e-ah) [macro + Gr. *rhis* nose + -ia] excessive size of the nose.

**macroscelia** (mak'ro-se'le-ah) [macro + Gr. *skelos* leg + -ia] excessive size of the legs.

**macroscopic** (mak'ro-skop'ik) [macro + Gr. *skopein* to examine] visible with the unaided eye or without the microscope.

**macroscopical** (mak'ro-skop'e-kal) 1. pertaining to macroscopy. 2. macroscopic.

**macroscopy** (mah-kros'ko-pe) examination with the naked eye.

**macrosigmoid** (mak'ro-sig'moid) [macro + Gr. *sigmoid*] abnormal enlargement of the sigmoid.

**macrosis** (mah-kro'sis) [macro + Gr. *osis*] increase in size.

**macrosmatic** (mak'ros-mat'ik) [macro + Gr. *osmesthai* to smell] having the sense of smell strongly or acutely developed.

**macrosomatia** (mak'ro-so-ma'she-ah) [macro + Gr. *soma* body] great bodily size. **m. adiposa congenita**, an obese type of premature development probably dependent on hyperfunction of the adrenal cortex.

**macrosonia** (mak'ro-so-me-ah) macrosomatia.

**macrospore** (mak'ro-spör) [macro + Gr. *spora* seed] 1. the larger spore form when spores of two sizes are present, as in certain fungi and protozoa. 2. megaspore.

**macrostereognosia** (mak'ro-ste're-o-no'se-ah) [macro +

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